

MARVEL

9

LGY#776

"HULK PLANET"
STARTS HERE!



R. OTTLEY

CATES • OTTLEY • RATHBURN • GRACIA • HOLLINGSWORTH



Mike Pasciullo | 1972 - 2022

With heavy hearts, Marvel remembers our dear friend and colleague Mike Pasciullo, who passed away earlier this year.

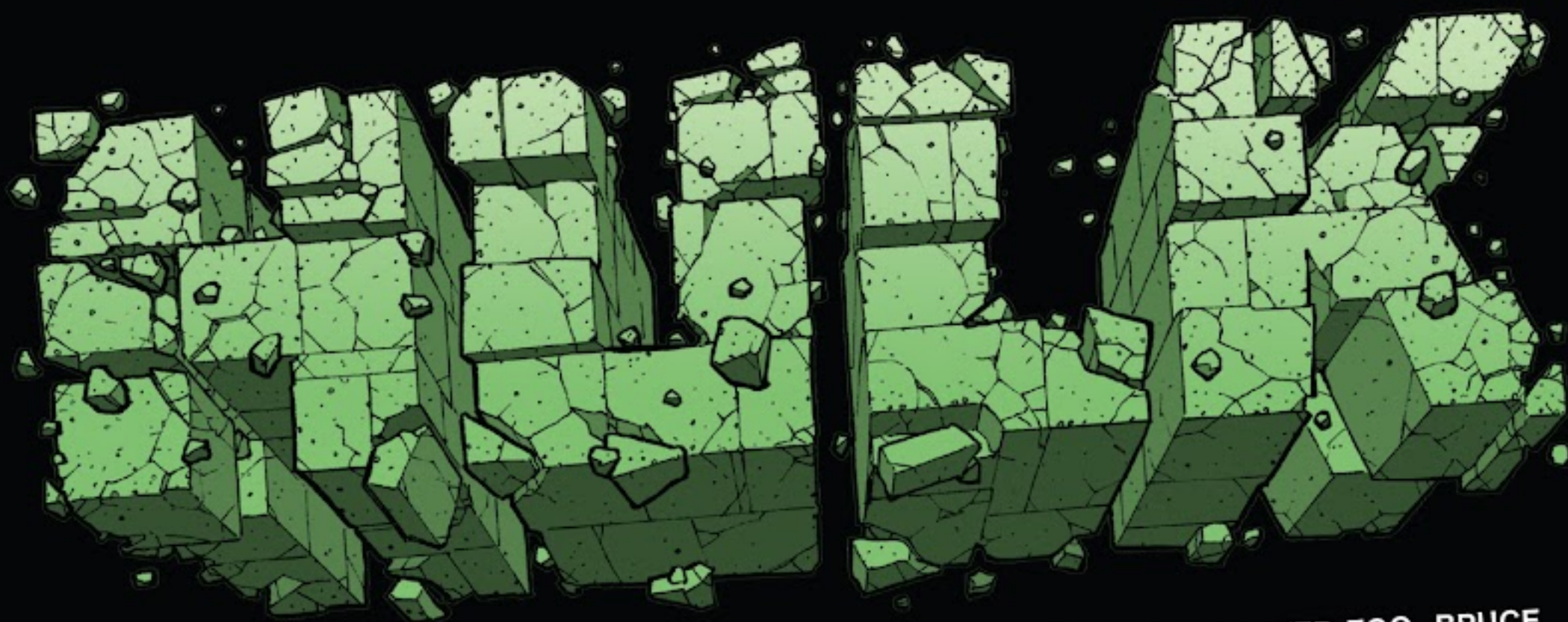
Growing up, Mike found a passion for collectibles and trading cards. After diving into comics and becoming a Marvel expert, he went on to work for Fleer, where he became an important collaborator on art development and creative direction for Marvel's trading card sets, including now-classic sets like DC vs. Marvel, Amalgam, and many more.

Through his 25-plus years at Marvel, Mike went on to lead the company's marketing strategy across publishing, films, television, and more. His work included landmark campaigns for seminal Marvel comic book moments like *Secret Invasion*, *Marvel NOW!*, *Civil War*, and many others, and key contributions in establishing the vision behind Marvel Studios' early promotional strategy, engaging fans with unforgettable live events and promotions at conventions and beyond. After

marketing multiple MCU films, he brought that fan experience to Marvel Television's projects, including *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, *Marvel's Daredevil*, *Marvel's Luke Cage*, *Marvel's The Punisher*, *Marvel's Iron Fist*, *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, and *Marvel's The Defenders*, and Marvel's animation projects for Spider-Man, Guardians of the Galaxy, Avengers, and more.

Building on his knowledge of sports, Mike also helped weave together Marvel's fandom with sports fans through Marvel-themed game days, Marvel giveaways at sports events, and other Marvel activations across the country with Major League and Minor League sports teams that continue to this day.

Mike was beloved at Marvel, and he will be remembered for his kindness, creativity, optimism, and humor. His memory will always be with us, and he will live on forever within the Marvel family and beyond. ■



HULK HAS RECENTLY UNDERGONE A DRAMATIC TRANSFORMATION. HIS ALTER EGO, BRUCE BANNER, HAS SPLIT THE HULK INTO THREE DISTINCT PARTS: THE HULK'S BODY HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A STARSHIP. BANNER'S PSYCHE PILOTS IT FROM WITHIN THE HULK'S MIND. AND THE HULK'S PSYCHE FUELS THE STARSHIP WITH HIS ANGER.

AFTER HULK WAS ACCUSED OF MURDERING A BAR FULL OF PATRONS IN EL PASO, TEXAS, THOR SET OUT TO APPREHEND HIM, LEADING TO AN ALL-OUT BRAWL BETWEEN THEM IN THE FAR DEPTHS OF SPACE. DURING THAT BATTLE, BRUCE BANNER CONFIDED THE TRUTH OF THE EVENTS IN THE BAR THAT NIGHT--A MYSTERIOUS, DARK FORCE CALLED TITAN HAD SEIZED CONTROL AND USED BRUCE'S BODY TO COMMIT THE HORRIFIC ATTACK.

EVENTUALLY, BOTH THOR AND HULK UNDERSTOOD THAT THE HULK COULD NO LONGER BE WELCOME ON EARTH. THOR SAID GOODBYE TO HIS FRIEND AND TEAMMATE AND TOLD THE WORLD THAT THE HULK HAD PERISHED IN THEIR EXPLOSIVE BATTLE. AND STARSHIP HULK FLEW OFF INTO THE FAR REACHES OF SPACE, SEEKING PEACE AND SOLITUDE...

"HULK PLANET"

..... *part one*

by

DONNY CATES *and* **RYAN OTTLEY**

CLIFF RATHBURN *inker*

MARTEGRACIA *and* **MATT HOLLINGSWORTH** .. *color artists*

VC's CORY PETIT *letterer*

RYAN OTTLEY *and* **ROMULO FAJARDO JR.** *cover artists*

DAN PANOSIAN; MAHMUD ASRAR *and* **MATTHEW WILSON;**
DALE KEOWN *and* **JASON KEITH** *variant cover artists*

ANTHONY GAMBINO *production design* | **MICHELLE MARCHESE** *assistant editor*

WIL MOSS *editor* | **C.B. CEBULSKI** *editor in chief*

HULK *created by* **STAN LEE** *and* **JACK KIRBY**

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THIS IS SO
STUPID.

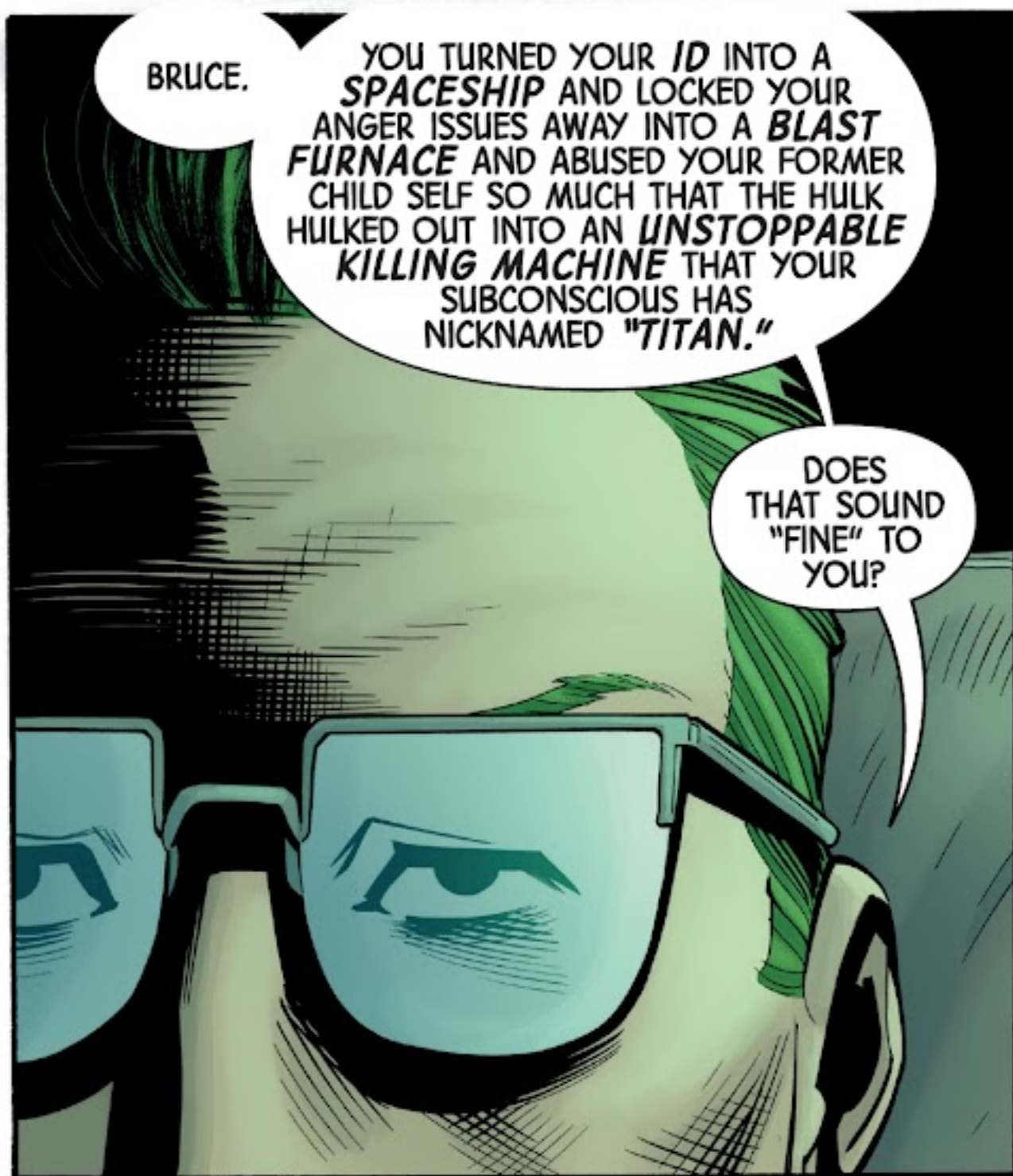


THIS IS
THE PROCESS.
TRUST THE
PROCESS.



THIS IS
INANE, SAMSON!
I DON'T NEED
THIS.

I'M
FINE!



BRUCE.

YOU TURNED YOUR *ID* INTO A
SPACESHIP AND LOCKED YOUR
ANGER ISSUES AWAY INTO A *BLAST*
FURNACE AND ABUSED YOUR FORMER
CHILD SELF SO MUCH THAT THE HULK
HULKED OUT INTO AN *UNSTOPPABLE*
KILLING MACHINE THAT YOUR
SUBCONSCIOUS HAS
NICKNAMED "*TITAN.*"

DOES
THAT SOUND
"FINE" TO
YOU?



IT--AGH--SOUNDS
PRETTY PAR FOR THE
COURSE, ACTUALLY.

NOW LET
ME OUT OF
HERE!



HMMM...



NO.

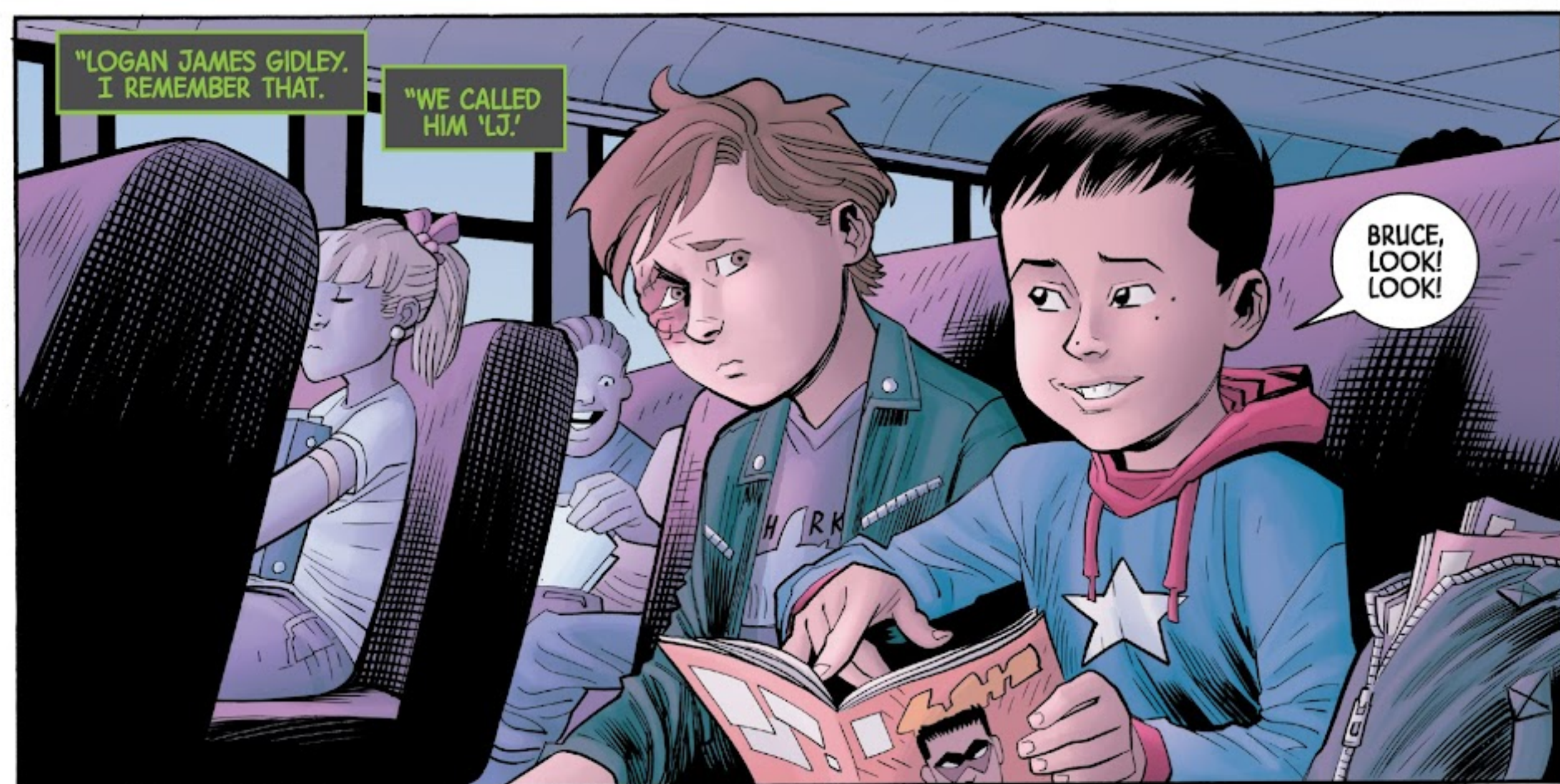
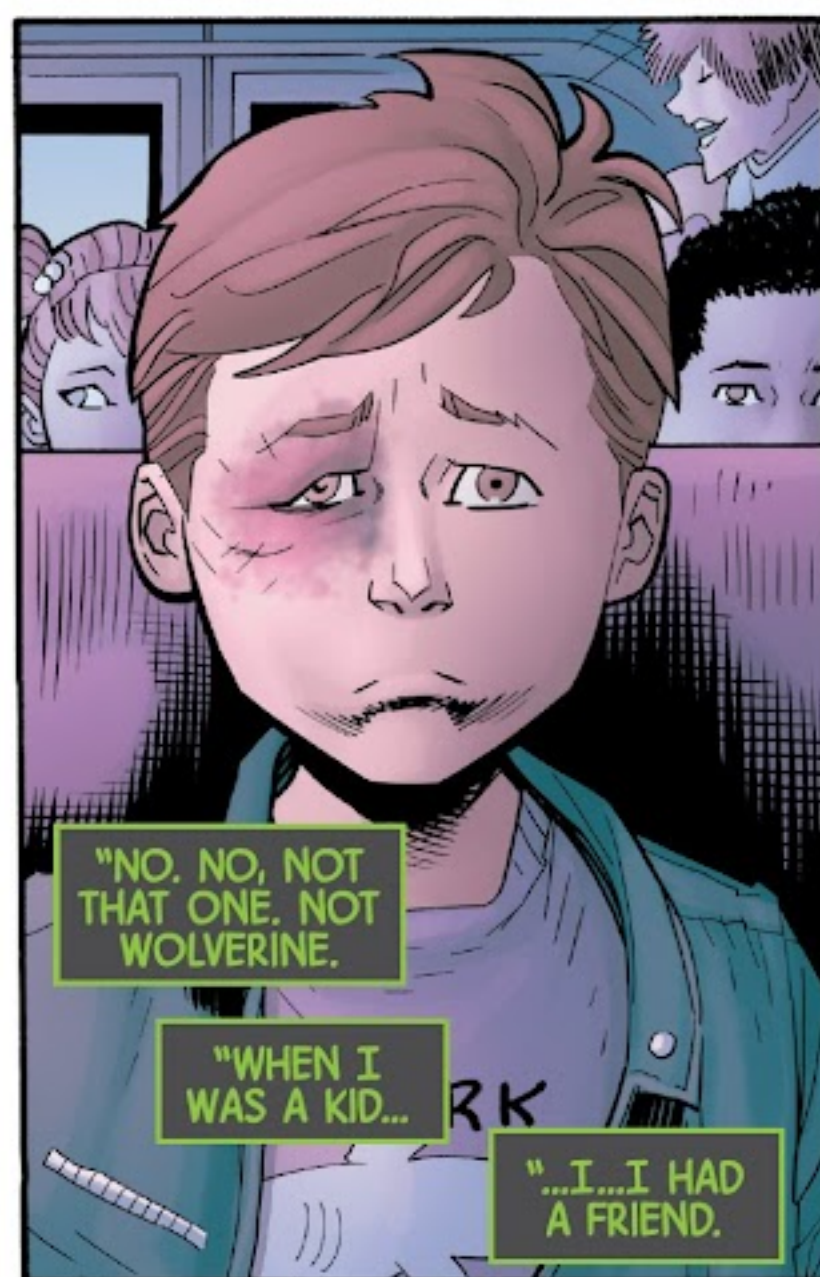


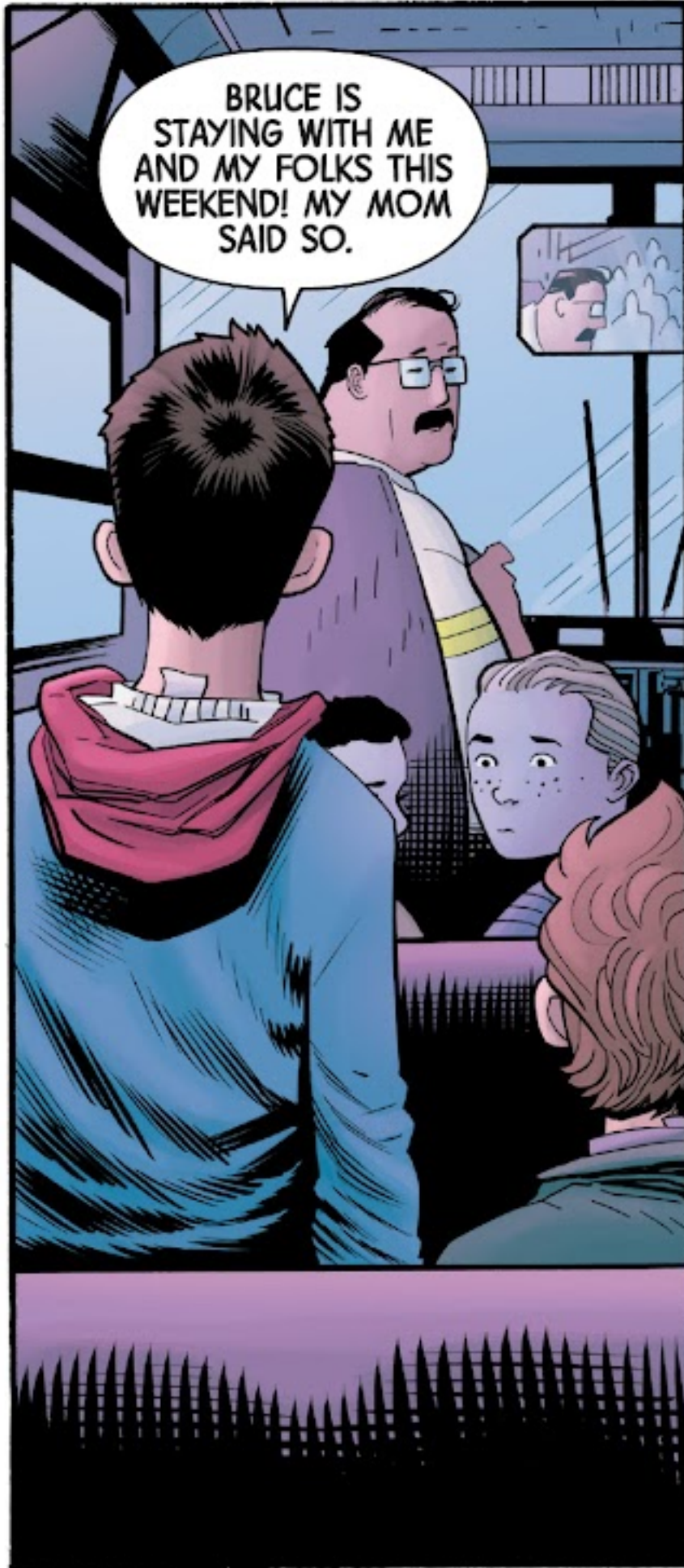
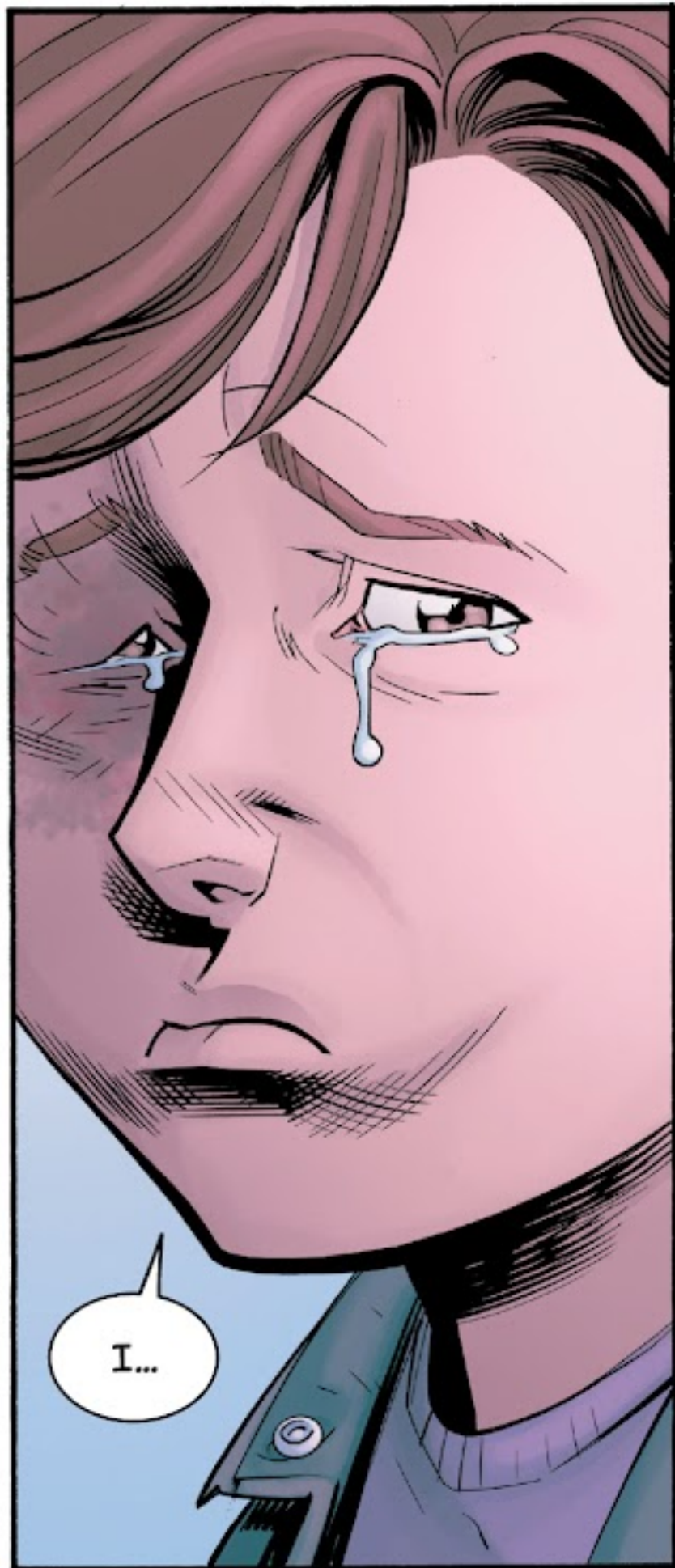
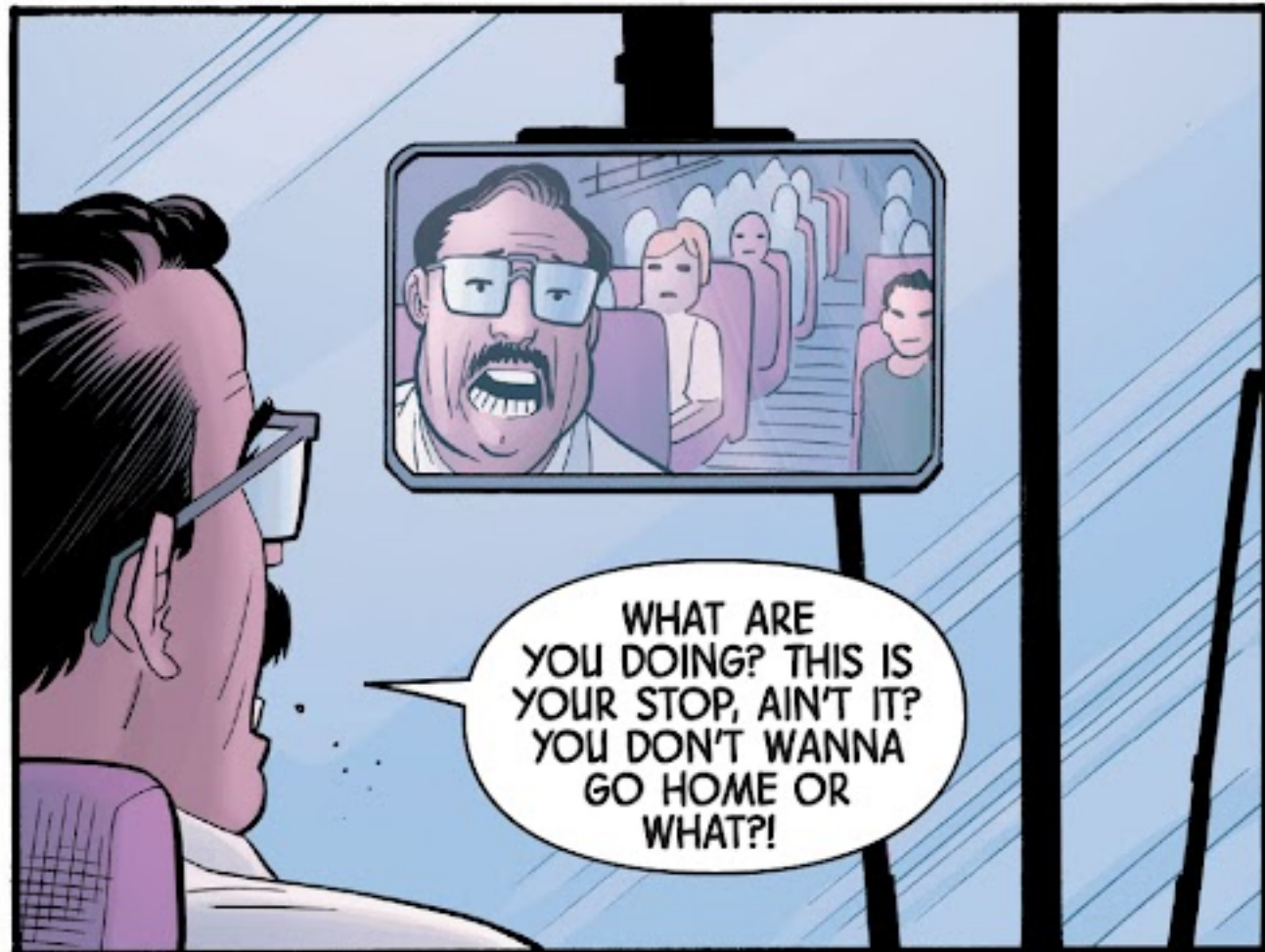
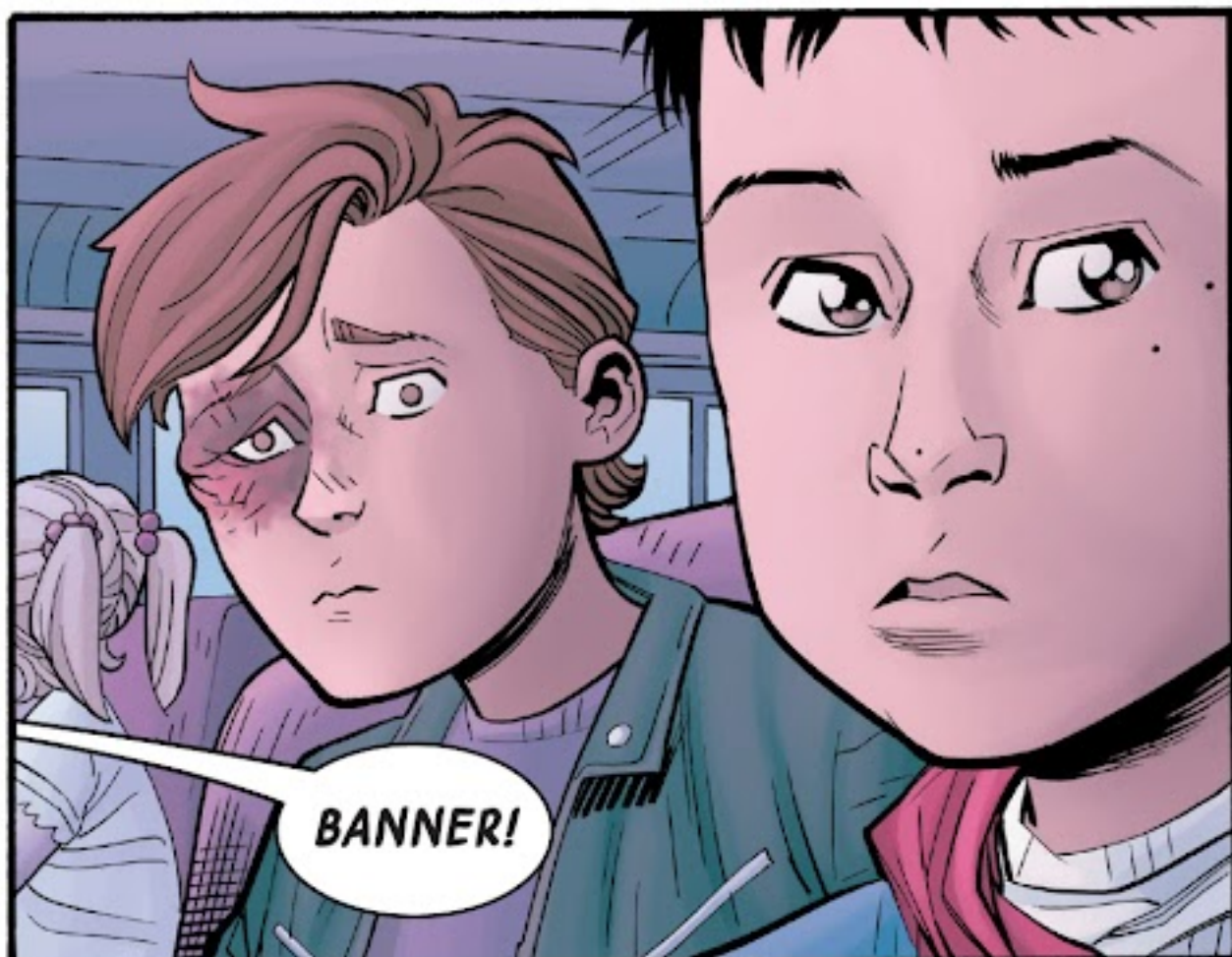
WELL, YES. YOU'VE BEEN SHOT.

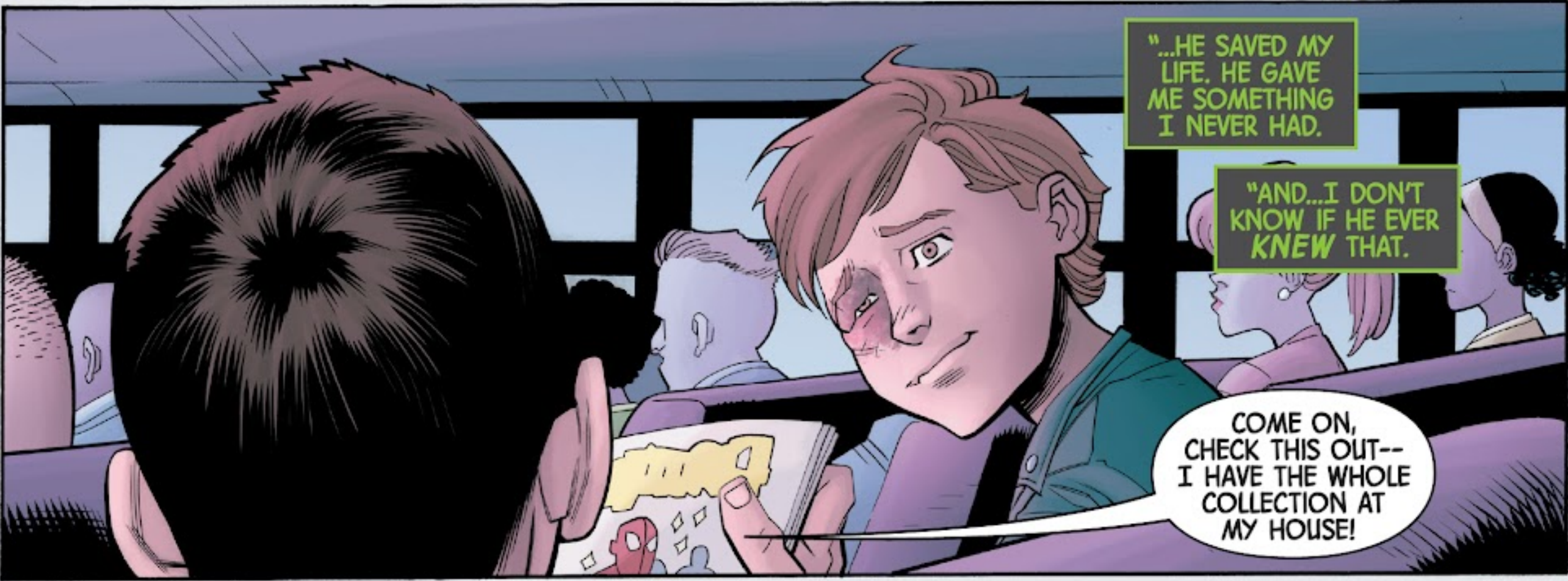
WHY DON'T WE RETURN TO THE QUESTION?

I ASKED YOU ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD.









"...HE SAVED MY LIFE. HE GAVE ME SOMETHING I NEVER HAD.

"AND...I DON'T KNOW IF HE EVER **KNEW** THAT.

COME ON, CHECK THIS OUT-- I HAVE THE WHOLE COLLECTION AT MY HOUSE!



"HE GAVE ME A **HOME**. SOMEWHERE I FELT **SAFE**. SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW THAT I'VE EVER FELT SINCE...

"MY HOUSE... MY HOUSE WAS JUST A WAITING ROOM. A HURTING PLACE. RED AND...LOUD.

"EVERY QUIET MOMENT WAS JUST A PRELUDE TO SOMETHING I COULD NEVER WASH CLEAN...

"SOMETHING..."



GOOD THINGS, BRUCE.

GOOD THINGS...



JUST BREATHE.

LOGAN'S HOUSE...IT WAS NICE.

WARM. HIS PARENTS WERE... KIND.

THEY WOULD LET ME GO THERE AS MUCH AS I WANTED. WE WOULD READ COMICS AND PLAY VIDEO GAMES AND-- AND HE WOULD PRETEND NOT TO NOTICE MY BRUISES.

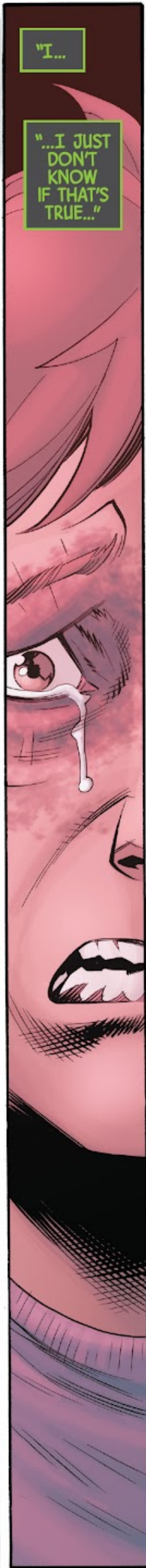
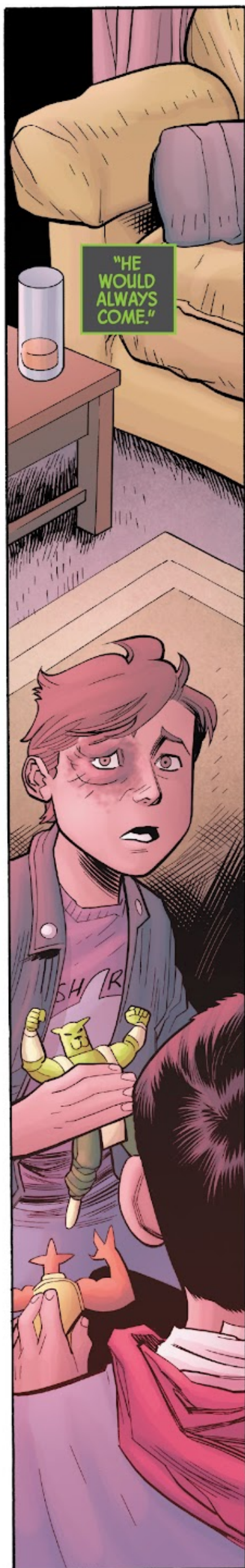
HE DIDN'T PITY ME. HE WASN'T **AFRAID** OF ME.

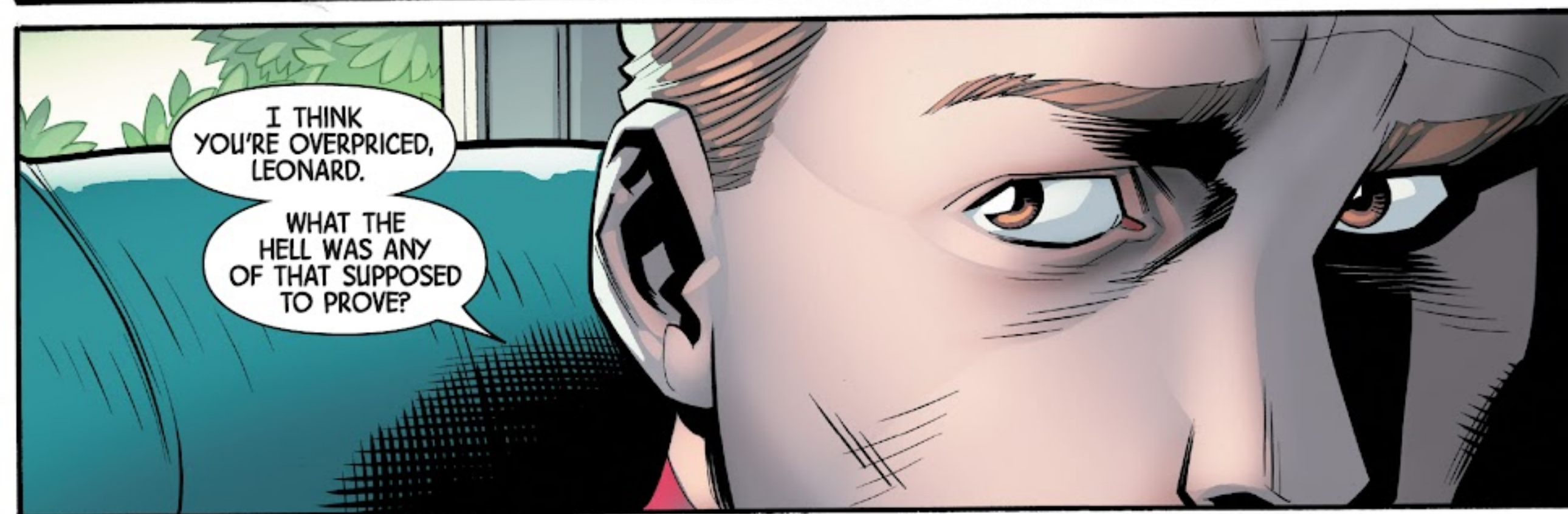
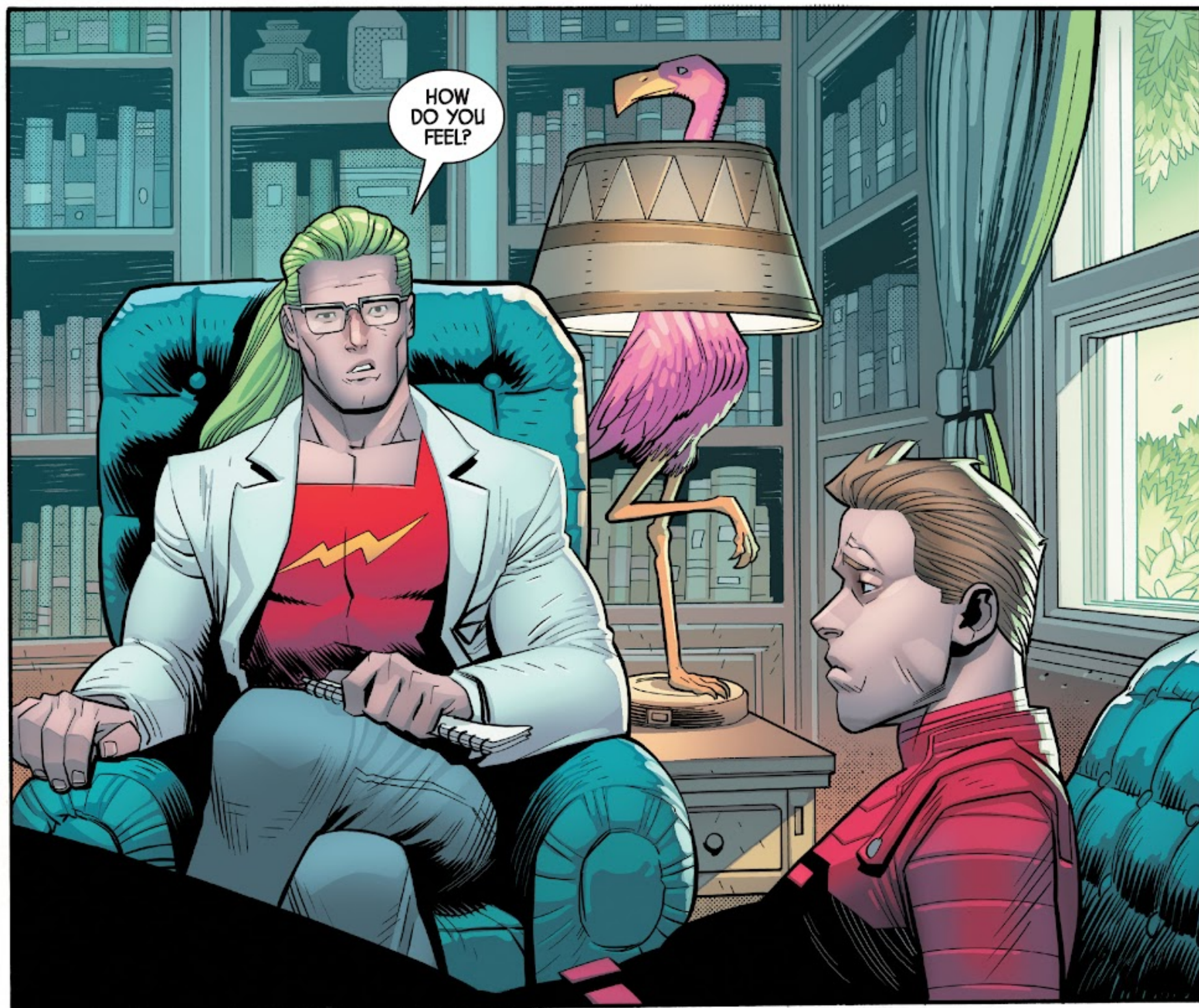
I...I NEEDED THAT.



BUT THEN...

...HE WOULD COME FOR ME.







YOU
TELL ME,
BRUCE.

YOU
PROGRAMMED
IT. THE "SAMSON
PROTOCOL,"
YES?

AT THE END
OF WHICH I WILL
DETERMINE IF YOU ARE
OF A SOUND-ENOUGH
MIND TO CONTINUE ON
THIS...JOURNEY OF
SELF-DISCOVERY...

YOU ARE,
IN EFFECT, LOCKED
OUT OF YOUR OWN
"STARSHIP HULK" CONTROL
DECK UNLESS YOU COMPLETE
AT LEAST TWO HOURS OF
DAILY THERAPY SESSIONS
WITH ME.



I'M VERY
PROUD OF YOU.
IT'S VERY INSIGHTFUL,
GIVEN YOUR RECENT...
EVOLUTIONS.

THE WORK
WE'RE ABLE TO DO
IN THIS *MINDSCAPE*
OF YOURS IS INCREDIBLE.
I THINK IF WE CAN
DELVE FURTHER--

I THOUGHT
YOU SAID THAT WAS
OUR TIME, SAMSON.
AM I CLEAR FOR
LAUNCH OR NOT?



WHATEVER
BECAME OF
LOGAN? YOUR
FRIEND?



I DON'T
KNOW.

I GREW UP.
BECAME A MONSTER.
KINDA LOST TOUCH,
YOU KNOW?

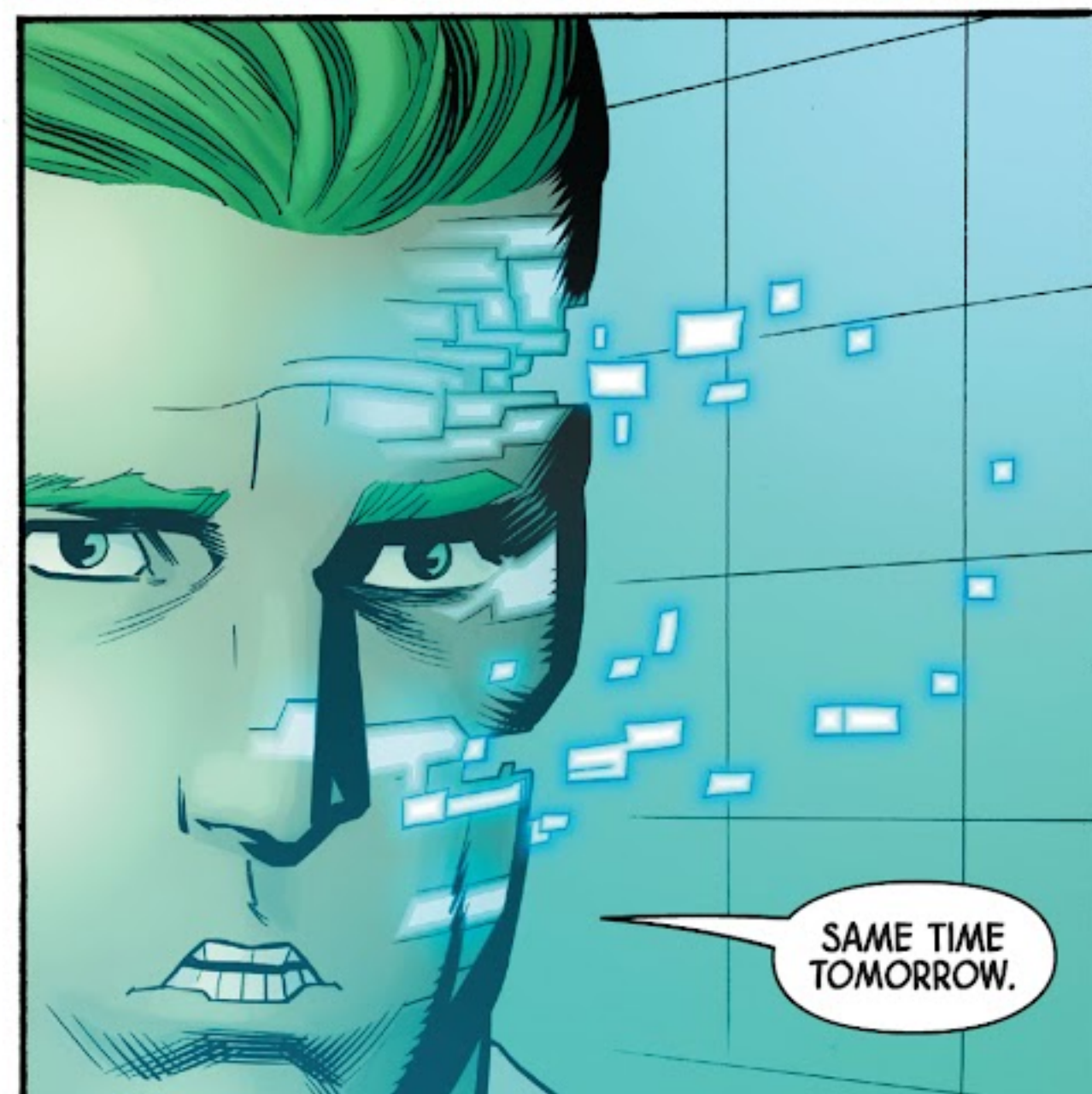


THAT'S WHY
IT'S A HAPPY
MEMORY,
LEONARD.

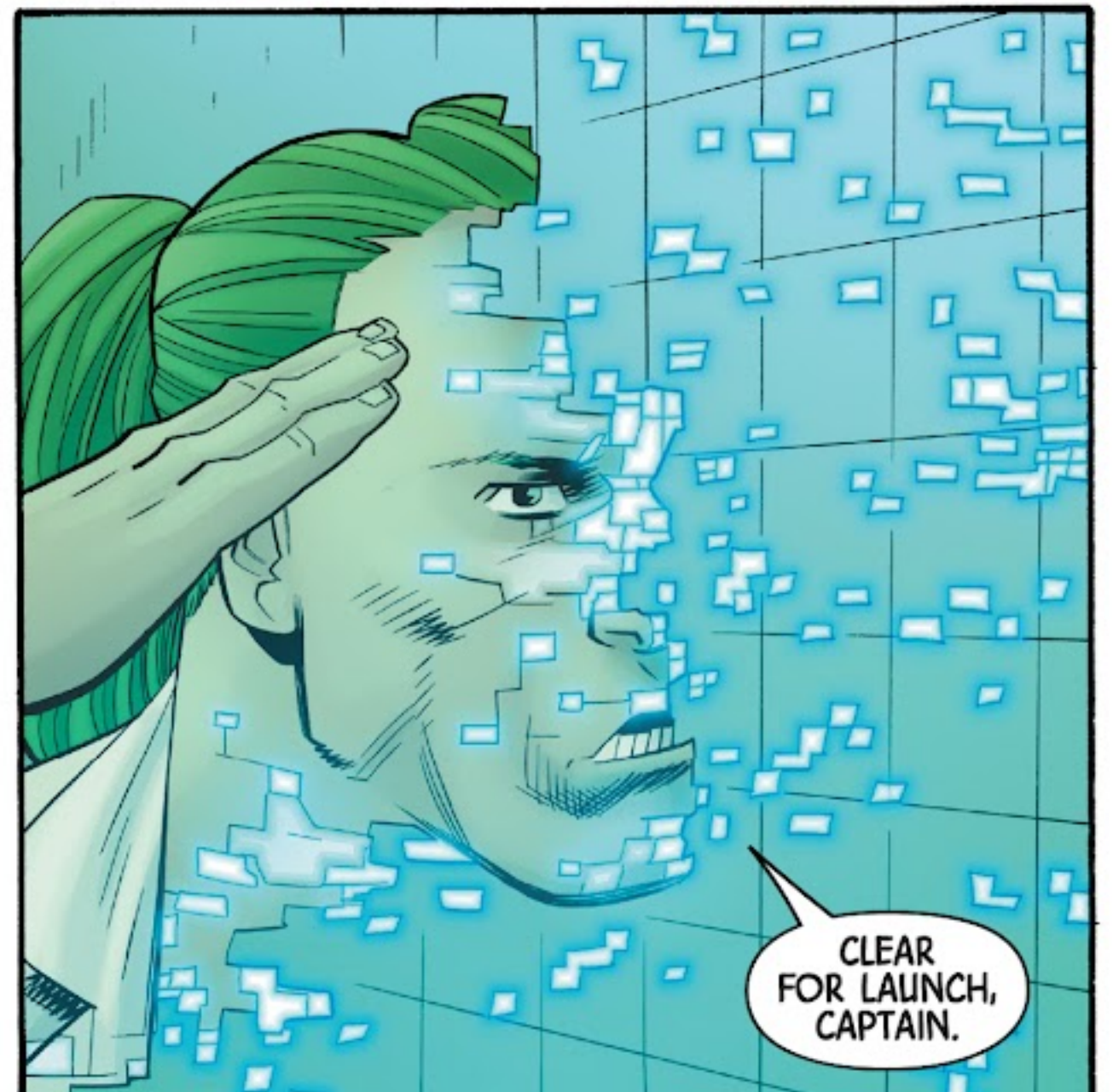
END
PROGRAM



HE'S THE
ONLY PERSON I
NEVER HURT.



SAME TIME
TOMORROW.



CLEAR
FOR LAUNCH,
CAPTAIN.



"CLEAR FOR LAUNCH, CAPTAIN."
SO INSULTING...JUST THE WAY
HE SAYS IT...

I CAN HEAR THE DISDAIN
IN HIS VOICE. HE OBVIOUSLY
THINKS I'VE *LOST* IT.

NOT EVEN SURE
WHY I HAVE HIM
AROUND...



AGH,
SORRY, CAPTAIN
BANNER!

IT'S OKAY.
JUST WATCH
WHERE YOU'RE
GOING, ENSIGN
BANNER.

SIR,
YES SIR.



THERAPY...

TH-THERE'S
A REPORT FOR
YOU ON THE BRIDGE,
CAPTAIN. WE'VE
BEGUN DESCENT.

VERY
WELL. AS YOU
WERE.



...WHAT
A JOKE.



I'M
PERFECTLY
FINE.

CAPTAIN
ON THE
BRIDGE!

AT
EASE.

NOW...



A LITTLE OVER 48 HOURS AGO,
STARSHIP HULK INTERCEPTED A
CODED SIGNAL BEAMING FROM A
DISTANT PLANET BEYOND THE
ARTERIAL MEMBRANES THAT
SEPARATE OUR MULTIVERSE.

...WHAT IS GOING
ON? WHERE ARE WE?
DO WE KNOW WHAT'S
DOWN THERE YET?

WE BELIEVE
SO, CAPTAIN. BUT
THERE'S SOME...
IRREGULARITIES...



THE SIGNAL WAS RIDING
ON A BEAM OF *GAMMA*.

WE'VE MAPPED
THE SURFACE OF THE
PLANET FOR TOPOGRAPHY
THAT WOULD GIVE US ANY
CLUES AS TO THE MAKEUP
OF ITS ATMOSPHERE.

BUT...THERE
DOESN'T APPEAR
TO BE ANY, SIR.



IN ORDER TO DECODE
AND FIND THE SOURCE OF
THIS DISTRESS BEACON,
I ENLISTED THE AID OF
MY OWN DIVIDED
SUBCONSCIOUS.

NO...WHAT?
NO *ATMOSPHERE*?
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
YOU SAID WE HAD SEEN
EVIDENCE OF *LIFE-
FORMS*...

BY SPLITTING MY OWN CONSCIOUSNESS INTO A CREW OF MULTIPLE-PERSONALITY MENTAL CONSTRUCTS, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO OPERATE THE SHIP AT ITS MAXIMUM POTENTIAL.

NO TOPOGRAPHY, CAPTAIN. THE ENTIRE PLANET IS...SMOOTH. QUITE LITERALLY LIKE A MARBLE.

AND JUDGING FROM OUR SCANS OF THE PLANET'S RINGS, WHATEVER MOUNTAINS OR RIDGES THIS PLANET ONCE HAD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED... PULVERIZED...

...AND DESTROYED IN SUCH A VIOLENT WAY THAT THE RESULTING DEBRIS WAS ROCKETED INTO THE PLANET'S OWN ORBIT. WE BELIEVE IT RAINS MOLTEN SEDIMENT ALMOST EVERY NIGHT...

GOD. THAT KIND OF POWER... IT'S...

INCALCULABLE, SIR.

SO WHATEVER'S DOWN THERE...IT'S STRONG. AND TOUGH...

AND IF I'M BEING HONEST...

AND WHAT ABOUT THESE? THESE... SPIRES.

THEY APPEAR TO BE CENTERS OF COMMERCE AND LEISURE.

...THEY'RE...

CASINOS, SIR. BUILT BY HAND. THIS ONE HAS A POOL THAT CAN BE SEEN FROM ORBIT.

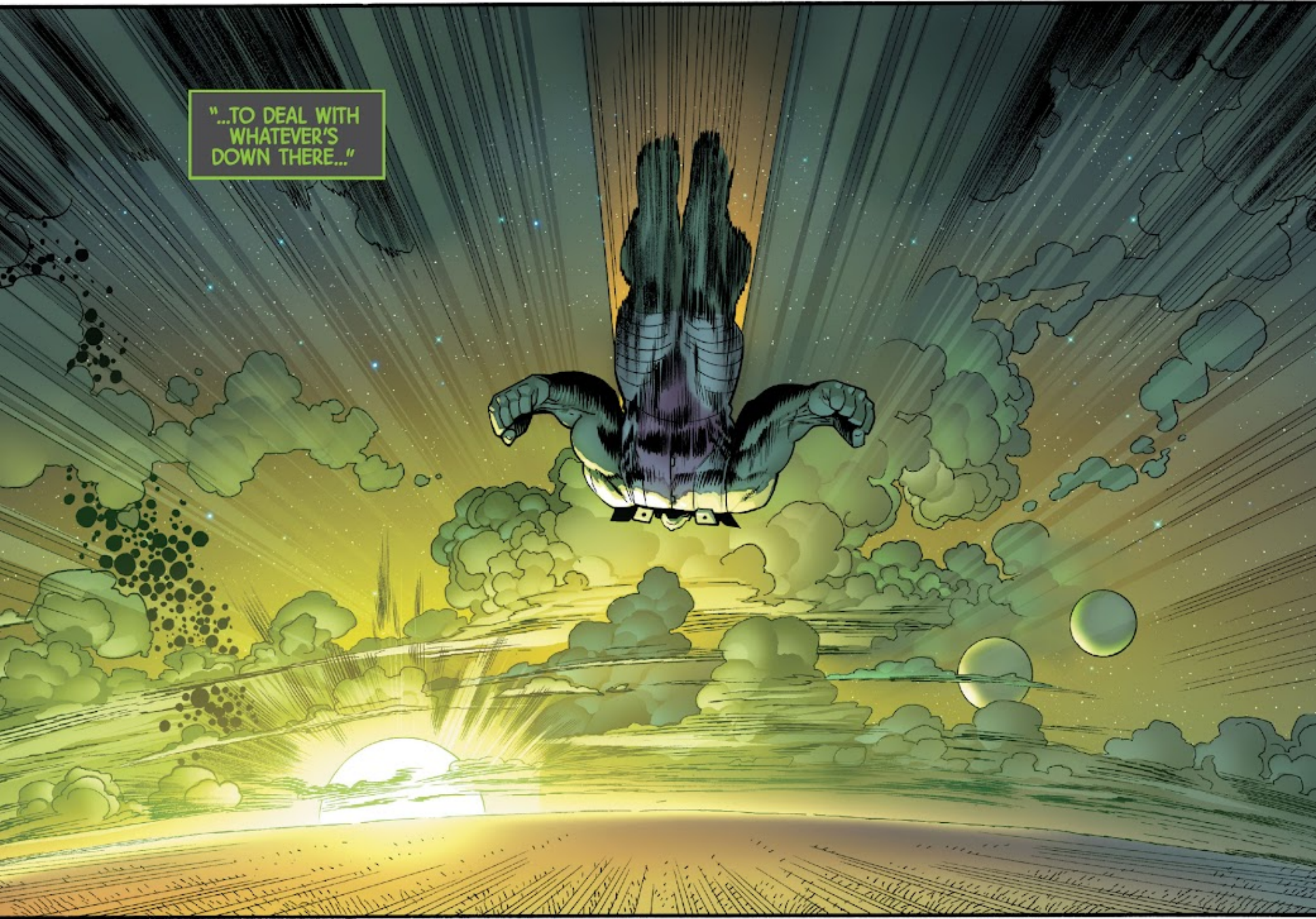
...IT'S JUST NICE TO NOT BE ALONE.

IT BEGS THE QUESTION, DOESN'T IT, SIR?

A PLANET DRENCHED IN GAMMA. WITH A POPULATION THAT HAS THE **STRENGTH** AND THE **INTELLIGENCE** TO BUILD SUCH BENIGN WONDERS...

YES... WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

WELL...





MULTIPLE
LIFE-FORMS
APPROACHING.



ARE THEY
HOSTILE?

UNKNOWN.

I HEAR
THEM. WHY
CAN'T WE SEE
THEM YET?

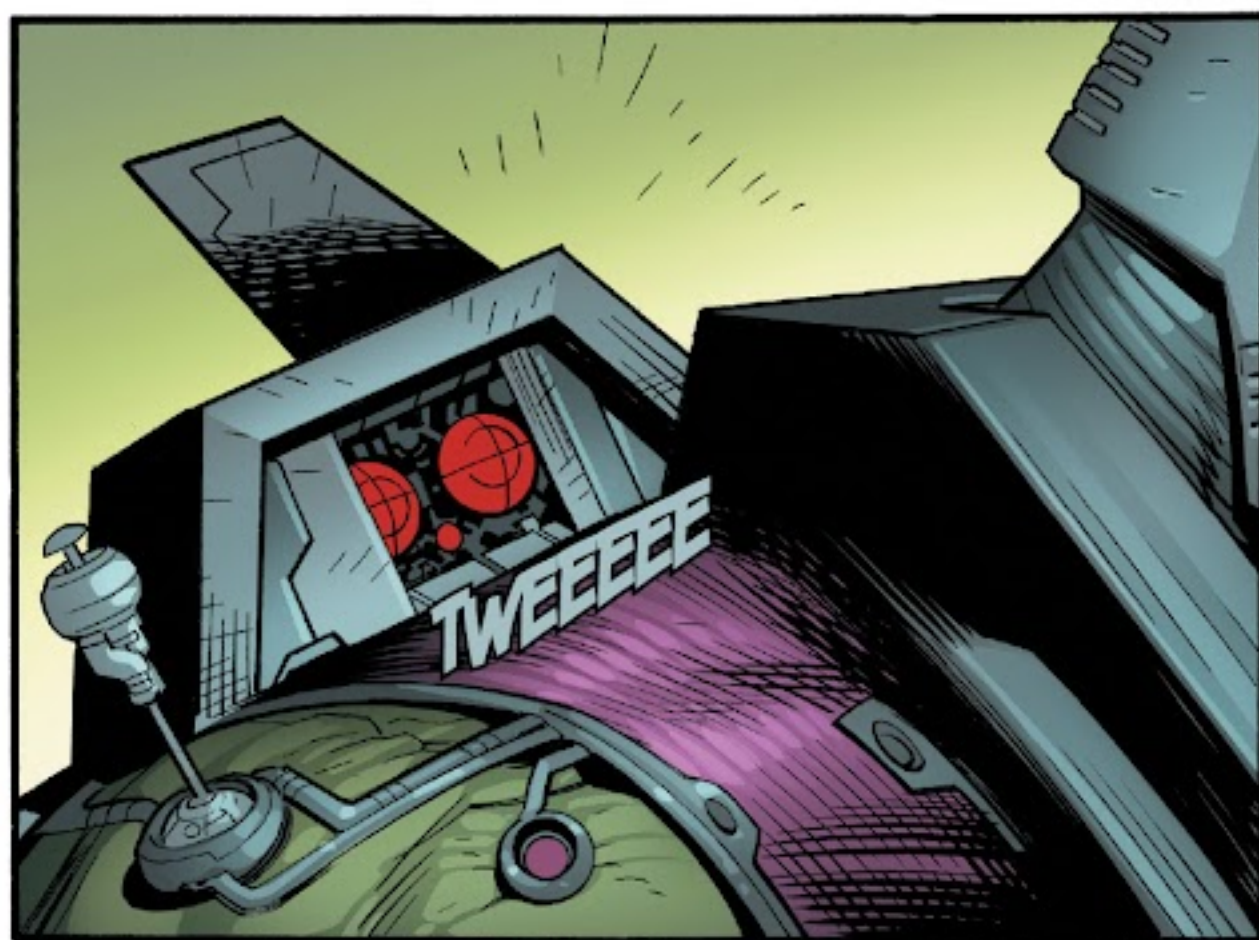


SKITTER
SKITTER

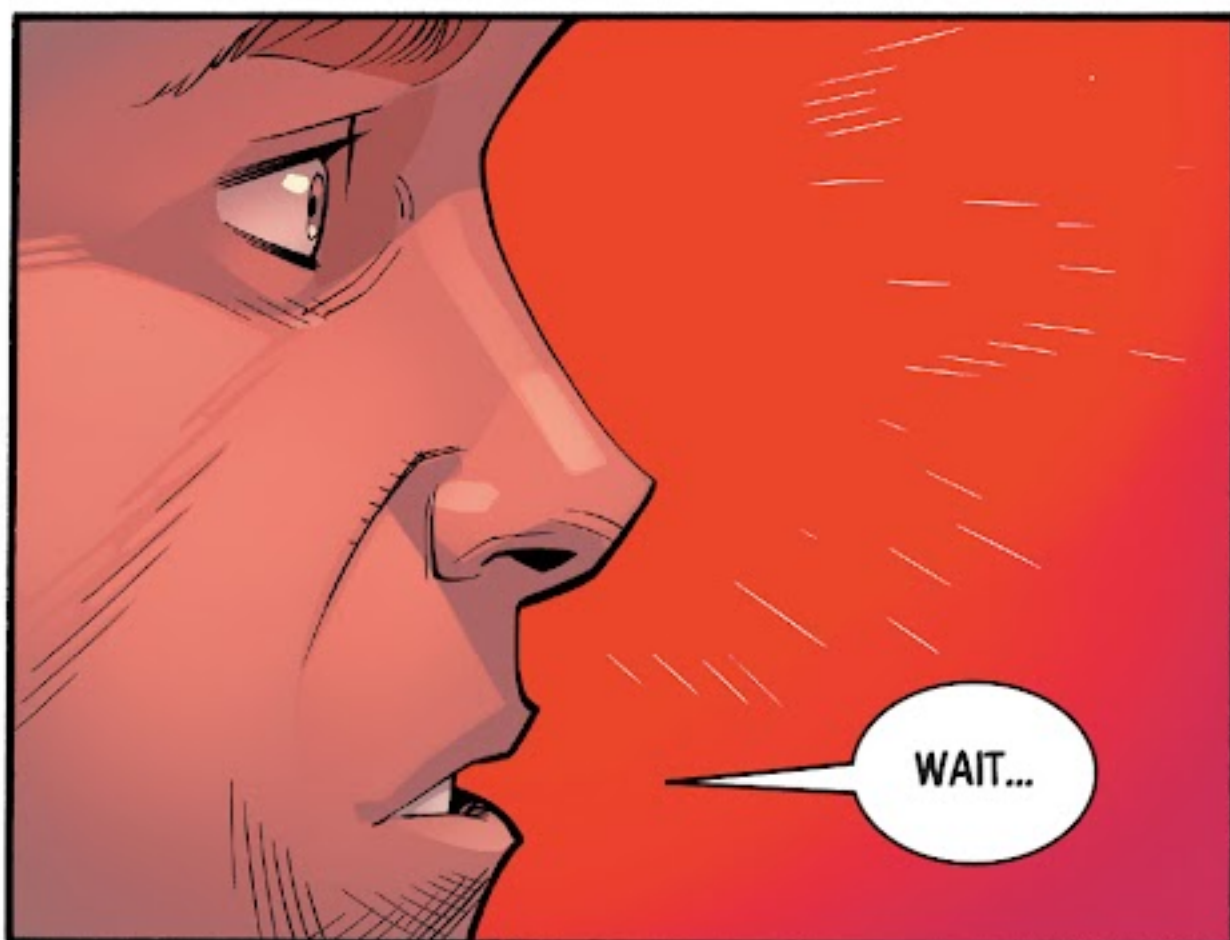
UNABLE TO
DETERMINE
LOCATIONS.



WELL,
PREPARE
TO FIRE--



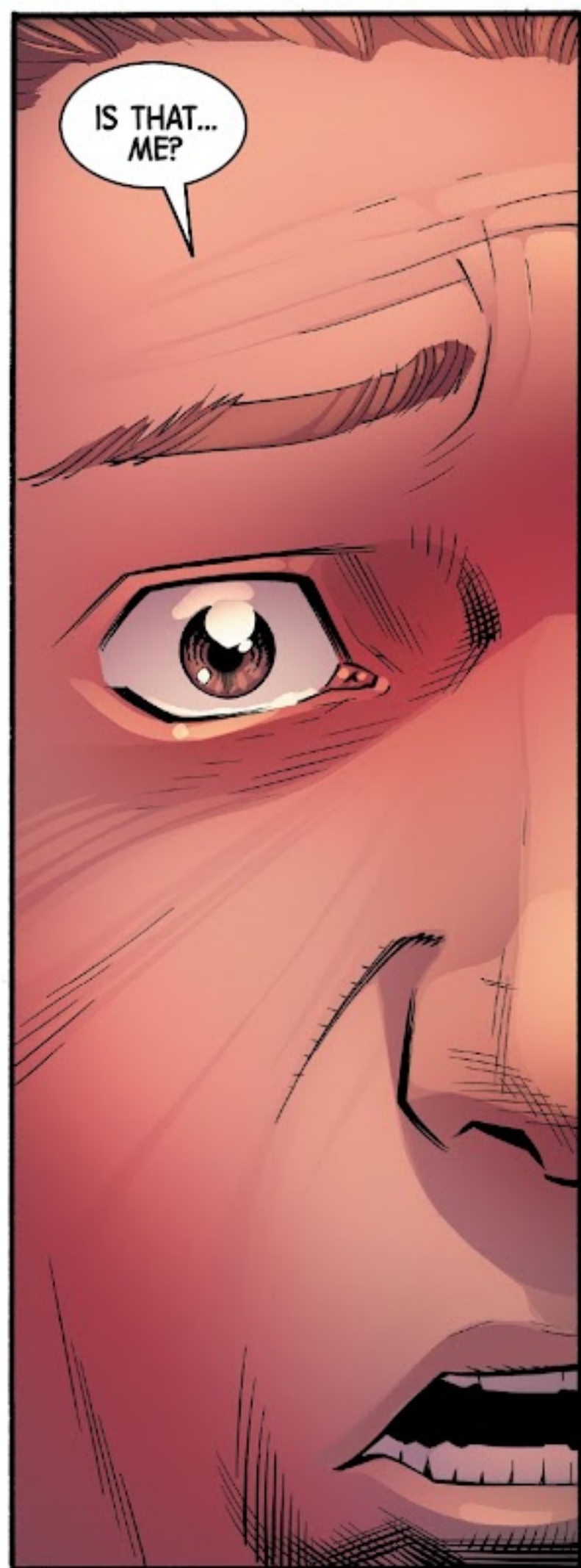
TWEEEEEE



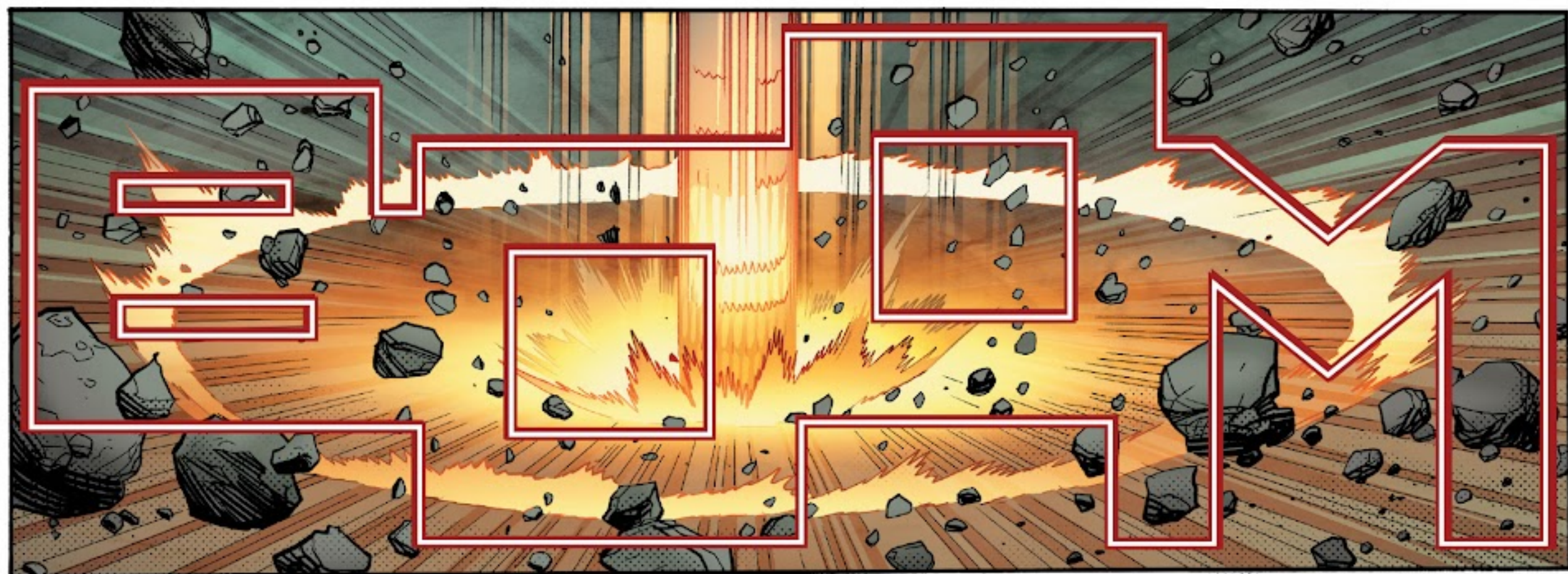
WAIT...



...WHAT'S
THAT?









WELCOME
HOME.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

GROUND CONTROL TO **STARSHIP HULK**

*Hello, readers, and welcome back to the **HULK** letters page! Please enjoy a selection of responses we've received, and keep sending us your letters!*

Hey there,
Gamma Gang!

I don't know what we did as a society to deserve this series with these two comic book legends attached to it but no take backs! Donny continues to push the limits of any character Marvel lets him get his conniving little hands on. I feel like he's taken Ottley's past work into consideration and has just been writing the most insane stuff he can possibly come up with! And Ryan delivers on every single page! And more! You know it's a good book when you stop to check the rating on the cover. Keep up the incredible work, guys!

Anthony B
Mesa, AZ

Hello!

Just wrapped up reading issues #1-3 and I was shocked to see how much Ryan has been set loose on this book. I haven't regularly read a Hulk book in many years, but with Ryan on board, I had to check it out. The story is pretty nuts, and I'm glad to be here for the ride. I'd buy the book no matter what because of Ryan's art, but Donny's story has me

intrigued. This is a take on the Hulk not quite like any other I've read it makes me hope that this creative synergy continues.

Thanks,
Brian Wisniewski

First of all, I'm so excited that Donny Cates is the writer for this book. He did such an excellent job on **VENOM** that having him transition over to this book makes perfect sense.

Secondly, I think an important subject must be addressed with the nature of this new iteration of the Hulk mythos. I think a lot of readers, myself included, are kind of confused as to what is going on and why. When last we left Banner, he seemed content at the end of **IMMORTAL HULK**. However, now we see an enraged Banner who is being blamed for a terrible incident that occurred in El Paso, TX. I know that Cates will connect the two eventually. The only question is how. But before we answer that, I think we need to address another important subject, and that is how much time has transpired between the end of **IMMORTAL HULK** and this new series. Has it been days? Weeks? Months? I'm hoping it will all be revealed by at least issue #12. Which brings me to a segue concerning Ryan Ottley.

I'm totally loving his art and I hear that he's only going to stay for six issues. That is totally heartbreaking! He and Cates are perfect together on this book! So it only stands to reason that he should stay for much longer than just six issues. I hope he has a change of heart and decides to stay longer. But however long he does intend to stay, we will all be grateful for the time he spent on it.

Thanks so much for taking my letter and remember...

KEEP CALM AND GAMMA ON
Paul Meyer
McDonald, PA

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

WRITE US AT

**MHEROES@
MARVEL.COM**

AND MARK YOUR LETTER

"OKAY TO PRINT"!

NEXT: HOME!



ISSUE #10

